

Derby/Oaks Update

Sunday, April 28, 2019

SIX KENTUCKY DERBY HOPEFULS, THREE OAKS RUNNERS TURN IN MAJOR WORKS; JAYWALK TO ARRIVE THIS AFTERNOON

LOUISVILLE, KY (Sunday, April 28, 2019) – The special 7:30-7:45 (all times Eastern) morning training window for Kentucky Derby and Kentucky Oaks horses was put to major use Sunday morning with six Derby hopefuls and three Oaks likely starters turning in works during that time frame.

The Derby workers were:

- By My Standards, four furlongs in :48.40 (12th fastest of 76 at the distance). Fractions of :12.40, :24, :36.40, out five furlongs in 1:00.60, six furlongs in 1:12.80 and seven furlongs in 1:26.60.
- Code of Honor, four furlongs in :46.80 (Second fastest of 76). Fractions of :11.80, :23.20, :35.20, out five furlongs in :59.40, six furlongs in 1:13.20.
- Country House and Tacitus in company together, five furlongs in 1:00 (Fourth fastest of 25). Fractions of :12.20, :24.20, :35.80, :48, out six furlongs in 1:12.80, seven furlongs in 1:26 and a mile in 1:39.80.
- Improbable, five furlongs in company in 1:00.60 (Ninth fastest of 25). Fractions of :11.80, :23.60, :36.40, out six furlongs in 1:13 and seven furlongs in 1:25.60.
- Win Win, four furlongs in company in :47.60 (Fourth fastest of 76). Fractions of :24.20, :36, out five furlongs in 1:00.20.

The Oaks workers were:

- Champagne Anyone, four furlongs in :48 (Eighth fastest of 76). Fractions of :12.40, :24.60 and out five furlongs in 1:00.80.
- Lady Apple, four furlongs in :49.80 (44th fastest of 76). Fractions of :12.40, :25, :37.40 and out five furlongs in 1:04.80.
- Street Band, five furlongs in 1:00.20 (Sixth fastest of 25). Fractions of :12.60, :24.40, :37, :48.40 and out six furlongs in 1:13.60.

On Monday, works are scheduled on two fronts for Derby runners: Long Range Toddy at Churchill Downs and Maximum Security at Palm Meadows in Florida. Restless Rider is scheduled to work here for the Oaks.

Scheduled to arrive early Sunday afternoon from Keeneland is 2018 Champion 2-year-old filly **Jaywalk** for a run in Friday's \$1.25 million Kentucky Oaks (GI).

BODEXPRESS – Top Racing, Global Thoroughbred and GDS Racing Stable's Bodexpress, No. 21 on the Kentucky Derby leaderboard and needing one defection to make the main body of the race, is scheduled to work Monday at Gulfstream Park West and then ship to Louisville Tuesday.

BY MY STANDARDS – Louisiana Derby winner **By My Standards**, who has been known as the "buzz horse" for the past 10 days, completed his major work prior to Saturday's Kentucky Derby with a half-mile move in :48.40 with jockey **Gabriel Saez** aboard.

"Well, that couldn't have gone any better," trainer **Bret Calhoun** said. "It's just a blessing how well he's doing entering the Derby. He's doing everything we've asked him to do and just moves so effortlessly around the racetrack. He went in :48.40 this morning but when Gabe got back to the barn he said he could've went around there again. It was like nothing to them"

Owned by **Chester Thomas' Allied Racing Stables**, By My Standards worked through eighth-mile clips of :12.40, :24 and :36.40 before galloping out five furlongs in 1:00.60, six furlongs in 1:12.80 and seven furlongs in 1:26.60, according to Churchill Downs' Clocker **John Nichols**.

By My Standards is scheduled to have a walk day Monday.

CODE OF HONOR – William S. Farish's Code of Honor completed his major work for Saturday's Kentucky Derby by working a half-mile in :46.80 with exercise rider Brian Duggan aboard for trainer Shug McGaughey.

Working on his own, Code of Honor produced fractions of :11.80, :23.20, :35.20 and galloped out five furlongs in :59.40 and six furlongs in 1:13.20.

"I told (Brian) to go in :48, but the track was pretty good this morning," McGaughey said. "I was pleased with the way he handled it and glad I got the kind of track we did today. He had two good works at Keeneland and the last one was on an off track, so we know he can handle an off track and what he was on today is probably what he will see Saturday."

Code of Honor earned his spot on the Kentucky Derby trail with a victory in the Fountain of Youth (GII) on March 2 at Gulfatream Park.

"He had to run well in the Fountain of Youth, not necessarily win but run well, or we were going to back off," McGaughey said. "He came out of the Florida Derby fine and had the two good works at Keeneland."

John Velazquez, a two-time Derby winner, has the mount on Code of Honor.

COUNTRY HOUSE/TACITUS – The Bill Mott-trained duo of Mrs. J.V. Shields et al.'s Country House and Juddmonte Farms' Tacitus had their collective final breeze for the Kentucky Derby, drilling five furlongs in tandem in 1:00 flat during the special Kentucky Derby/Oaks 7:30-745 training session.

What began as a routine workout -- the pair were meant to mirror each other throughout in a controlled fashion -- became a lot more interesting when they were spontaneously joined by another Derby worker, **Win Win Win**, and his workmate (maiden **Souper Courage**) to their outside on the far turn. The now-quartet ran four abreast turning for home, with Win Win Win closing to pass the Mott pair, who finished on even terms by design.

The furlong splits for the Mott workers were :12.20, :24.20, :35.80, :48 and out six furlongs in 1:12.80, seven furlongs in 1:26 and a mile in 1:39.80.

Garrett O'Rourke, general manager of Juddmonte's U.S. operations, was pleased, despite the work going a bit off-script. Tacitus is one of the favorites for the \$3 million affair and has only raced four times, including a win in the Wood Memorial (GII) at Aqueduct.

"I thought it went well," O'Rourke said. "He handled Win Win Win coming up on the outside really professionally. He was under control and got a good blow. That's all you can ask for, really."

Mott added: "I thought it worked out very well. It was a good tightener, was what I expected from them and what I wanted. It should be enough, as far as conditioning, and the fact that we saw them work well gives you a good feeling that they're coming into it the right way. So far, they have cooled out great and neither was exhausted. They had a little bit of a blow initially, then caught their air and they're cooling out really well.

"We generally would see something like that happen occasionally when they don't have a (designated) 15-minute break just for Derby and Oaks horses. I thought about that (beforehand) because I knew there would be some other workers. You just can't really anticipate it. My team was ready to break off and they probably didn't know we were going to work. All the riders did a really good job and I really have to commend all of them. It's not going to hurt them and they better get used to (traffic) if they're not already or they'll get a surprise on Derby Day. It's pretty crowded out there.

"We have a week to go until the Derby and we look like we're in good shape. They finished up right together. They may have been a head apart. I told them if they could work together, that would help each other during the work. Both of my horses have pretty laid-back dispositions and they probably needed their company to encourage each other. For me, it worked out perfectly.

"I'll just try to keep them out of trouble and get them over there on race day; nothing fancy going into it. We just hope they come out of this in good shape and stay healthy and sound."

Mott reported that Country House and Tacitus may school Tuesday or Wednesday during the races.

CUTTING HUMOR/SPINOFF – It was walk day at the Todd Pletcher barn in Florida for the two Derby colts he's handling for owners Starlight Racing (Cutting Humor) and Wertheimer and Frere (Spinoff).

Each of the runners had put in works Friday, then jogged Saturday, as is the trainer's style. The Sunday walk also followed the Pletcher pattern.

The next step for the sophomores is to jog Monday morning at their Palm Beach Downs location, then make an early trip Tuesday morning to Churchill Downs with an expected arrival time of between 8 and 8:30 at the trainer's Barn 40.

Rider **Manny Franco** has the call on Spinoff. Cutting Humor's jockey is still to be decided.

GAME WINNER/IMPROBABLE/ROADSTER — As Elliott Walden pondered what he had just witnessed from Improbable during the colt's final serious workout in advance of the Kentucky Derby, the CEO and President of WinStar Farm couldn't help but get hit with a pretty ambitious case of déjà vu.

"He's feeling good and I think (trainer) **Bob** (**Baffert**) has him right where he wants him," Walden said of Improbable, whom WinStar Farm co-owns along with **China Horse Club International** and **Starlight Racing**. "He reminds me of **Super Saver** when he came in here off Arkansas. The three weeks were a good three weeks."

Super Saver famously gave the WinStar team its first Kentucky Derby triumph when he captured the Run for the Roses in 2010, three weeks after running second in the Arkansas Derby (GI). Whether Improbable can follow in those footsteps remains to be seen but the son of **City Zip** certainly inspired confidence with his five-furlong work in 1:00.60 at Churchill Downs on Sunday.

As Improbable headed onto the track during the special time slot reserved exclusively for Oaks and Derby runners, the chestnut bucked and played under jockey **Florent Geroux** – who is actually set to ride fellow Baffert trainee Roadster in the 1 ¼-mile classic. His good-feeling mood continued to show itself as he broke off just a couple lengths behind workmate **Embolden**, quickly catching up to that one and moving past his stablemate down the lane as he registered splits of :11.80, :23.60, and :36.40 before galloping out six furlongs in 1:13 and seven furlongs in 1:25.60.

"I don't think he was rank. He was just maybe a little bit keen and feeling good," Geroux said. "He's very easy (to ride) actually. Down the lane he was responding exactly to what I was asking him to. I could have gone faster if I wanted to. I could have gone a touch slower if I wanted to. He was just very cooperative."

Improbable captured all three of his starts during his juvenile campaign, capping off his 2018 season with a victory in the Los Alamitos Futurity (GI). He finished second in both the Rebel Stakes (GII) and the Arkansas Derby (GI) but has seemingly thrived during his time in Louisville.

"He loves this track. I just love the way he kept on galloping out today," Baffert said. "That's what we wanted to see. He gets over it well. He's not really big but he jumps a long way. Now I can relax. Now we have to wait for the draw. That's the last of the anxiety is the draw."

Improbable's work Sunday was his second since arriving at Churchill following his loss to **Omaha Beach** in the Arkansas Derby. He previously posted a four-furlong work in :48 on April 22.

One day after arriving from California and joining stablemate Improbable in Churchill Downs' Barn 33, reigning juvenile male champion **Game Winner** and Grade I winner **Roadster** went to the Churchill Downs track for the first time in their Kentucky Derby preparations.

Veteran exercise rider **Humberto** "**Beto**" **Gomez** was up on both runners, first taking **Gary** and **Mary West**'s **Game Winner** out at 6:30 a.m. The Breeders' Cup Juvenile (GI) hero jogged one lap the wrong way with the pony two days after working seven furlongs in 1:27 at Santa Anita Park.

The routine was much the same for **Speedway Stable**'s Roadster, who came out during the 7:30 a.m. time slot along with Improbable. The Santa Anita Derby (GI) winner also worked at Santa Anita on April 26, going six furlongs in 1:13.80.

"They just jogged. They're not going to do much," Baffert said of the duo.

Both Game Winner and Improbable have proven form over the Churchill Downs track with the former earning his Breeders' Cup triumph beneath the Twin Spires and Improbable capturing the Street Sense Stakes on the Breeders' Cup undercard. Roadster's Breeders' Cup chances went by the wayside last summer when he underwent throat surgery following his third-place finish in the Del Mar Futurity (GI).

"All three (of my runners) have different styles. Game Winner he's like the fullback, Roadster he's real light and lean but he gets over the ground well. I'm just happy to be here with three really nice horses."

GRAY MAGICIAN – Wachtel Stable, Eclipse Thoroughbred Partners and Gary Barber's Gray Magician pleased trainer Peter Miller one day after his final breeze for the Kentucky Derby. The son of GI winner Graydar and GII-placed stakes winner Burg Berg worked five furlongs in 1:00.40 on Saturday at San Luis Rey Training Center in Southern California.

"Looks great," Miller said, confirming that all systems are "go" for the UAE Derby (GII) runner-up.

Per Miller, the improving colt is scheduled to ship to Kentucky on Monday.

HAIKAL – **Shadwell Stable**'s **Haikal** galloped 1 3/8 miles at Belmont Park on Sunday morning. Per trainer **Kiaran McLaughlin**, the consistent homebred is scheduled to ship to Kentucky following training.

Haikal carries the blue and white of His Highness **Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum** of Dubai, as well as a depth of pedigree tied closely to McLaughlin's operation. The conditioner trained his sire, the Cigar Mile (G1) winner **Daaher**, as well as sprint star **Takaful**, a half-brother to Haikal who won the Vosburgh Stakes (G1) in 2017 beating older horses.

"I thought Takaful, being by **Bernadini**, would ultimately go long, but he was really keen and tough to train," McLaughlin said. "This horse's mind is different. He's much more relaxed. He's not as tough to train and I think he has the kind of mind you need in this kind of a race.

"It's great to have this horse do so well; by a sire you trained and owned by a great man like **Sheikh Hamdan**," he continued. "I'm really honored to get him into the starting gate."

LONG RANGE TODDY – Rebel Stakes (GII) winner **Long Range Toddy** galloped 1 1/2 miles Sunday morning and is likely to breeze Monday, according to Hall of Fame trainer **Steve Asmussen**'s assistant **Scott Blasi**.

MASTER FENCER – Japan's representative in this year's Kentucky Derby, **Koichi Tsunoda**-trained **Master Fencer**, continues to train at Keeneland Racecourse in Lexington.

At 6:30 a.m., the chestnut son of **Just A Way** jogged one lap on the all-weather training track and then another on the main dirt track under exercise rider **Yosuke Kono**. Adorning a hood that matches the pink silks he will carry on race day for owners **Katsumi** and **Yasuyo Yoshizawa**, he was led on both occasions by pony "**Fox**" and rider **Mary Ellet**.

Per connections, the proverbial mystery horse of the Kentucky Derby 145 is eating up his feed markedly well and thriving since arriving in the United States.

The stakes-placed colt is scheduled to ship to Churchill Downs on Monday evening.

MAXIMUM SECURITY – Gary and Mary West's Maximum Security galloped Sunday morning at Palm Meadows Training Center in Florida where he is scheduled to work Monday for trainer Jason Servis.

Maximum Security is scheduled to ship to Louisville Tuesday. Servis will be making the drive from South Florida and is not expected to arrive in town until Tuesday night.

OMAHA BEACH – Trainer **Richard Mandella** swung by Barn 28 Sunday morning to do a little "easy" training. His likely Kentucky Derby favorite, **Fox Hill Farm**'s **Omaha Beach**, had done the heavy lifting the day before when he fired a :59 in a five-furlong drill that was the primary finishing touch on his preparations for Derby 145. Sunday all the Hall of Fame trainer had to do was oversee a 30-minute walk around the shedrow for his big colt – and that went just fine.

"To be honest, I didn't sleep too well last night," Mandella said. "Anytime you have an important work like we did yesterday, you've got to be concerned for the next morning and how they come out of it. But he's fine; good as gold. It sure has me feeling better."

The trainer and his wife, **Randi**, were off later in the day for a trip over to **Spendthrift Farm** to see one of their favorites, the multi-champion mare **Beholder**, who Mandella guided through four Eclipse Award seasons – 2012 (2-year-old filly), 2013 (3-year-old filly), 2015 and 2016 (older dirt female). Along the way she managed to win \$6,156,000. The trainer noted that the mare already had a yearling colt by **Uncle Mo** and a weanling filly by **Curlin**, and that she had been bred back to **War Front**, the sire of Omaha Beach.

As for his Derby charge looking ahead to Monday, Mandella left all options open.

"We'll either jog him, or gallop him, or ride him under the shed. That ought to about cover it."

PLUS QUE PARFAIT – Imperial Racing's UAE Derby (GII) winner Plus Que Parfait exited his final Kentucky Derby breeze in top shape, according to his connections. The chestnut ridgling son of Point of Entry walked the shedrow and did a routine trot on the concrete to check soundness Sunday morning.

"He came out great," trainer **Brendan Walsh** said. "We're very happy with him. He's a real solid horse."

"I don't think I've seen him come out of a work that (well)," added assistant trainer **Tom Molloy**. "He's very happy right now. He's a 'people-horse' and he barely pays attention to other horses. It's funny how much he likes people."

The Kentucky Jockey Club (GII) runner-up will school during the second race Thursday along with with multiple Grade II-winning stable star **Proctor's Ledge**, who is slated to defend her title in the Longines Churchill Downs Turf Distaff (GII) on Derby Day.

SIGNALMAN – Kentucky Jockey Club (GII) winner and Blue Grass (GII) third **Signalman** spent his Sunday morning just walking the shedrow following a five-furlong workout on Saturday at trainer **Kenny McPeek**'s barn, assistant **Greg Geier** said.

The colt – who races for the partnership of **Tommie M.** Lewis, Steve Crabtree, Dean Demaree, David Bernsen, Jim Chambers and Magdalena Racing – was not showing any ill effects from a slight, one-inch cut over his left eye, from bumping his head while in his stall. He worked the five furlongs in 1:00 on Saturday with jockey Brian Hernandez Ir.

Signalman still needs a couple of defections to make the Derby field. McPeek plans to take the colt to Pimlico for the Preakness on May 18, no matter what happens in Louisville.

SUENO – "Walking only" was the report on the colt Sueno from the **Keith Desormeaux** barn Sunday morning, the second day the **Silverton Hill LLC** youngster had merely toured Barn 24.

Assistant trainer **Julie Clark** was in charge of proceedings while Desormeaux had headed back to check on his main string at Santa Anita in California. She noted – realistically – that their dark bay or brown 3-year-old was unlikely to make the cut for Derby 145 in light of the fact that he stood at No. 23 on a roster that was only going to allow for 20.

Though official word on the colt's next race won't come until the owners make the call later in the week, it appears the son of the **Medaglia d'Oro** stallion **Atreides** is likely next to be seen in the lineup for the Preakness Stakes (GI) in Maryland on May 18.

TAX – According to trainer **Danny Gargan**, Wood Memorial (GII) runner-up **Tax** galloped one mile at Belmont Park on Sunday morning and is scheduled to ship to Kentucky later on during the day. The Withers (GIII)-winning gelded son of Arch breezed a half-mile in 47.80 three days prior.

"He's improved with each run," Gargan said. "I think he ran an '8+', then an '8-' and then a '6' in his last three starts on the sheets. He continues to do well."

Tax is owned by R.A. Hill Stable, Reeves Thoroughbred Racing, Hugh Lynch and Corms Racing Stable. Reeves Thoroughbred Racing (Dean and Patti Reeves) owned Mucho Macho Man, who was third in the 2011 Derby.

VEKOMA – **R.A.** Hill Stable and Gatsas Stables' Vekoma had a walk day at trainer George Weaver's barn at Palm Beach Downs in Florida.

Winner of the Blue Grass Stakes (GII) in his most recent start, Vekoma is scheduled to ship to Louisville on Tuesday. Weaver expects to be at the post position draw Tuesday at 11 a.m.

WAR OF WILL – When asked how **Gary Barber**'s multiple graded stakes winner **War of Will** had come out of his bullet four-furlong work in 47.60 on Saturday, trainer **Mark Casse** found the nearest piece of wood by his office and playfully knocked his head up against it.

"They just walked today, so far so good," said Casse, also referring to War of Will and his Oaks contender **Chocolate Kisses**, who also worked Saturday.

War of Will also got some new shoes put on in advance of his expected Kentucky Derby run.

WIN WIN — Jockey **Julian Pimentel** likely will never forget his first trip to Churchill Downs.

In town to work **Live Oak Plantation**'s **Win Win Win** for Saturday's Kentucky Derby, he would up having more company than he bargained for as he piloted the colt through a half-mile in :47.60, the fourth fastest of 76 works at the distance.

As Win Win win and his workmate, **Souper Courage**, were getting ready to break off at the half-mile pole, to their inside came the **Bill Mott**-trained Derby hopefuls **Country House** and **Tacitus** who were in to their five-furlong works.

"That was a little different, but it worked out well," Pimentel said of the work in which Win Win Win raced just behind the Mott duo. "He went about his business and he wanted to go get them."

Trainer **Mike Trombetta** was watching from the fourth floor stakes room balcony and could see how things were going to unfold.

"I was on the radio with Mel (exercise rider **Melanie Williams** on Souper Courage) and told her there was company coming behind her," Trombetta said. "They started their work at the 5/8ths and that is why they caught up to us so fast. Those things happen, but it is unusual that it happened here with limited traffic. Hey, they jump in and join the party and everybody gets around there OK and everybody is happy."

At the end of the day, there were smiles all around.

"Julian was very happy with it," Trombetta said of the rider who has been on board for all three of the colt's victories including a track-record score in the Pasco Stakes at Tampa Bay Downs.

Pimentel returned to Maryland after the work and is scheduled to return to Louisville on Friday.

Kentucky Derby and Oaks Update Sunday, April 28, 2019 Page 5 of 10

SHAPING UP: THE KENTUCKY DERBY – Likely starters in the 145th running of the \$3 million Kentucky Derby presented by Woodford Reserve (Grade I) to be run for 3-year-olds at 1 1/4 miles on Saturday, May 4: By My Standards (jockey Gabriel Saez), Code of Honor (John Velazquez), Country House (Flavien Prat), Cutting Humor (undecided), Game Winner (Joel Rosario), Gray Magician (Drayden Van Dyke), Haikal (Rajiv Maragh), Improbable (Irad Ortiz Jr.), Long Range Toddy (Jon Court), Master Fencer (JPN) (Julien Leparoux), Maximum Security (Luis Saez), Omaha Beach (Mike Smith), Plus Que Parfait (Ricardo Santana Jr.), Roadster (Florent Geroux), Spinoff (Manny Franco), Tacitus (Jose Ortiz), Tax (Junior Alvarado), Vekoma (Javier Castellano), War of Will (Tyler Gaffalione), Win Win Win (Julian Pimentel).

Next up in order of preference: **Bodexpress** (undecided), **Signalman** (Brian Hernandez Jr.), **Sueno** (undecided) and **Bourbon War** (undecided).

ROAD TO THE KENTUCKY DERBY LEADERBOARD PRESENTED BY WOODFORD RESERVE

#	Horse	Trainer	Points
1	Tacitus	Bill Mott	150
2	Omaha Beach	Richard Mandella	137.5
3	Vekoma	George Weaver	110
4	Plus Que Parfait	Brendan Walsh	104
5	Roadster	Bob Baffert	100
6	By My Standards	Bret Calhoun	100
7	Maximum Security	Jason Servis	100
8	Game Winner	Bob Baffert	85
9	Code of Honor	Shug McGaughey III	74
10	Haikal	Kiaran McLaughlin	70
11	Improbable	Bob Baffert	65
12	War of Will	Mark Casse	60
13	Long Range Toddy	Steve Asmussen	53.5
14	Tax	Danny Gargan	52
15	Cutting Humor	Todd Pletcher	50
16	Win Win Win	Mike Trombetta	50
17	Country House	Bill Mott	50
18	Gray Magician	Peter Miller	42
19	Spinoff	Todd Pletcher	40
20	Master Fencer (JPN)	Koichi Tsunoda	Japan
21	Bodexpress	Gustavo Delgado	40
22	Signalman	Kenny McPeek	38
23	Sueno	Keith Desormeaux	32
24	Bourbon War	Mark Hennig	30

BARN LIST – KENTUCKY DERBY

Horse	Trainer	Barn
By My Standards	Bret Calhoun	23
Code of Honor	Shug McGaughey	43
Country House	Bill Mott	19
Game Winner	Bob Baffert	33
Improbable	Bob Baffert	33
Long Range Toddy	Steve Asmussen	38
Omaha Beach	Richard Mandella	28
Plus Que Parfait	Brendan Walsh	9
Roadster	Bob Baffert	33
Signalman	Kenny McPeek	6
Sueno	Keith Desormeaux	24
Tacitus	Bill Mott	19
War of Will	Mark Casse	36
Win Win Win	Mike Trombetta	43

KENTUCKY DERBY POST POSITION DRAW TO BE HELD TUESDAY AT 11 A.M. IN ARISTIDES LOUNGE

What: The Post Position Draw for the 145th running of the \$3 million Kentucky Derby Presented by Woodford Reserve (Grade I) will be held Tuesday, April 30 at 11 a.m. (all times Eastern) in the Aristides Lounge on the second floor of Churchill Downs' Clubhouse. The Derby post position draw is a traditional "pill pull" in which horses' entry blanks are pulled simultaneously with a numbered pill to determine what stall a horse will break from the starting gate. Preference to America's greatest race is given to the top point-earners on the "Road to the Kentucky Derby." Up to 24 3-year-olds may enter the 1 ½-mile race and four horses can be listed as "also eligible" and would be ranked in order accordingly; they could draw into the field should any horse(s) be scratched before scratch time on Friday, May 3, 2019 at 9 a.m.

Where/When: Tuesday at 11-11:30 a.m. in the Aristides Lounge on the second floor of the Clubhouse.

Host: Churchill Downs' Track Announcer Travis Stone

Pill Pull: Vice President of Racing Ben Huffman and Assistant Racing Secretary Dan Bork Kentucky Horse Racing Commission Chief Steward Barbara Borden

Format:

- 11:03-11:06 a.m. Introduction
- 11:06-11:12 a.m. Pill pull for 1-10
- 11:12-11:14 a.m. Brief interlude
- 11:14-11:21 a.m. Pill pull for 11-20
- 11:21-11:23 a.m. Brief interlude
- 11:23-11:26 a.m. TwinSpires.com Morning Line Odds by Mike Battaglia

How to Watch: The Kentucky Derby Post Position Draw will be streamed live on www.KentuckyDerby.com and televised live in Louisville by NBC affiliate WAVE-3 and other various other local and national outlets.

Kentucky Derby and Oaks Update Sunday, April 28, 2019 Page 6 of 10

Video of the Oaks and Derby post position draws will be available on the Kentucky Derby News Feed:

https://www.kentuckyderby.com/uploads/wysiwyg/assets/uploads/20190425 NEWS FEED ALERT 2.pdf

PAST PERFORMANCES AND STAKES HISTORY

- Brisnet.com Free Past Performances: http://bit.ly/2XHAp1c
- Brisnet.com Kentucky Derby Study Materials: http://www.brisnet.com/content/2019/04/2019-kentucky-derby-study-materials/
- KentuckyDerby.com Expert Selections: <u>https://www.kentuckyderby.com/wager/expert-picks</u>

KENTUCKY OAKS UPDATE

BELLAFINA – The likely favorite for Friday's \$1.25 million Longines Kentucky Oaks (G I) put in her final bit of western exercise Sunday morning at Santa Anita Park as trainer **Simon Callaghan** looked on.

"She galloped a mile and a half and she looks very good. We're very pleased with her," the transplanted Englishman said. "She'll be aboard a plane at Ontario Airport at 1 a.m. tomorrow and should arrive at Churchill Downs early Monday."

Callaghan has regular rider **Flavien Prat** (he has handled her in all eight of her previous starts) signed on once again for the **Kaleem Shah** filly, who has won six of those eight starts, all of the victories in graded stakes. The trainer noted that he'd be flying from California Tuesday and planned to be at the barn with Bellafina Wednesday morning

CHAMPAGNE ANYONE – Six Column Stables and Randy Bloch's Champagne Anyone completed her major preparations for Friday's \$1.25 million Longines Kentucky Oaks (GI) by working a half-mile in :48 with jockey Chris Landeros aboard.

Fractions on the work were :12.40, :24.60 and out five furlongs in 1:00.80. The half-mile drill was the eighth fastest of 76 at the distance over the fast track.

On a scale of one to 10 on the "Just what I wanted scale," trainer Ian Wilkes had the work at the top end of the ladder.

"It was perfect," Wilkes said. "She has had a good four weeks here (since winning the Gulfstream Park Oaks, GII) and as long as I don't mess anything up the next four days, we are fine."

Landeros will have the mount Friday on Champagne Anyone, who is scheduled to jog Monday.

"Every time I get on this filly, she gives me more confidence I can win the Oaks," Landeros said.

CHOCOLATE KISSES – Like stablemate **War of Will**, who also was on the work tab Saturday, Honeybee Stakes (GIII) winner **Chocolate Kisses** had a walk day in the **Casse Racing** shedrow.

The daughter of **Candy Ride** (**ARG**) put in her major piece of work in advance of the Kentucky Oaks when she worked four furlongs in :48 outside in company with **Hoffa's Union**. Chocolate Kisses broke her maiden on the turf at Saratoga last summer and went on to finish fourth to fellow Kentucky Oaks contender **Restless Rider** in the Alcibiades Stakes (GI) at Keeneland.

COOKIE DOUGH – **Arindel's Cookie Dough**, who would need one defection from the roster of probable entrants to make the Kentucky Oaks field of 14, continued her training Sunday morning at Gulfstream Park for trainer **Stanley Gold**.

Should Cookie Dough draw into the field, **Jeffrey Sanchez** would have the mount. If she does not draw into the field, Gold has indicated she would stay at Gulfstream and point to the Black-Eyed Susan (GII) at Pimlico May 17.

DUNBAR ROAD – Following her five-furlong workout on Saturday, **Peter M. Brant**'s **Dunbar Road** did not go out on the Churchill Downs track. Instead, as she awaits a possible run in the May 3 Kentucky Oaks (GI), she walked the shedrow.

"Now we have to wait to see if there are any defections," trainer **Chad Brown** said.

In order for her to make the field, Dunbar Road needs at least two of the horses in front of her on the Oaks points leaderboard to defect. She's 16th in the points standings, but only the top 14 will reach the starting gate, with the field to be decided Monday morning. Dunbar Road worked five furlongs in 1:01.60 on Saturday under her regular exercise rider, **Kriss Bon**.

FLOR DE LA MAR – Godolphin Racing's Grade 1-placed Flor de La Mar was out relatively early to take her first trip around the Churchill Downs main track Sunday morning.

In her first bit of exercise since arriving from California a day earlier, the daughter of **Tiznow** joined stablemate **Game Winner** in coming out around 6:30 and jogging one lap the wrong way around under **Jose Conteras**. Unraced as a juvenile, Flor de La Mar will be making just her fourth career start when she enters the starting gate for the Kentucky Oaks and showed promise when finishing second to likely Oaks favorite **Bellafina** in the April 6 Santa Anita Oaks (GI).

"I thought she worked really well (on Friday)," trainer **Bob Baffert** said referring to the filly's bullet five-furlong move from the gate in 59.80 at Santa Anita Park. "It's a tough task for her (going into the Oaks) but she got beat just a couple lengths by the favorite, Bellafina, who I think is the best filly in there. She ran pretty decent."

JAYWALK – Cash is King and Leonard Green's Jaywalk galloped Sunday morning at Keeneland under exercise rider Lucas Berticelli for trainer John Servis.

Jaywalk is scheduled to leave Keeneland at noon today with an early afternoon arrival at Churchill Downs.

Kentucky Derby and Oaks Update Sunday, April 28, 2019 Page 7 of 10

JELTRIN – **ADR Racing Stable**'s **Jeltrin**, winner of the Davona Dale (GII) at odds of 51-1, made her first appearance on the track here Sunday morning jogging a mile under exercise rider **Andry Blanco** shortly after the track opened at 5:15.

"She will go out early every morning except Tuesday or Wednesday when she would go at 7:30," trainer **Alexis Delgado** said.

Jeltrin arrived at Churchill Downs Saturday afternoon and will be ridden in the Oaks by **Luis Saez**.

"I have been here before but only as a tourist," said Delgado, who has 16 horses in his stable at Gulfstream Park.

LADY APPLE – **Phoenix Thoroughbred III** and **KatieRich Stables'** Fantasy Stakes (GIII) winner **Lady Apple** worked an easy half-mile in :49.80 Sunday morning for Hall of Fame trainer **Steve Asmussen**.

Lady Apple worked solo through splits of :12.40, :25 and :37.20 with a five-furlong gallop out in 1:04.80.

Asmussen is likely to arrive in Louisville Monday or Tuesday.

LIORA – **Coffee Pot Stables' Liora** was put through some fine tuning Sunday, going to the paddock and then gate schooling during the 7:30 a.m. time slot before putting in a light jog under **Victor Garcia** with trainer **Wayne Catalano** looking on.

Given that Liora boasts the same trainer, owner, and jockey (Channing Hill) as former stablemate and 2017 Kentucky Oaks starter Farrell, comparisons to the multiple grade stakes winner are easy to draw. Where Farrell was a committed frontrunner, however, Catalano believes his latest talented distaffer has more handiness to her.

"With Farrell, she mostly wanted to be on the lead, she was a little bit one dimensional," Catalano said. "This filly will do whatever you want her to do. She'll lay up there, she'll go on, she can do whatever you want. She's a little bit more manageable."

MOTION EMOTION – Mark DeDomenico's Motion Emotion returned to the track to jog a mile under exercise rider Raul Vizcarrondo for trainer Tom Van Berg.

OUT FOR A SPIN – **Commonwealth Stables'** upset Ashland Stakes (GI) winner **Out for a Spin** galloped about 1 1/2 miles Sunday morning for locally based trainer **Dallas Stewart**.

"We're just rolling along," Stewart said. "It's starting to get down to the nitty-gritty of it."

Irad Ortiz Jr. has the call for the Longines Kentucky Oaks.

POSITIVE SPIRIT – Trainer **Rodolphe Brisset** said **Michael J. Ryan's Positive Spirit** was on the Keeneland track as planned Sunday morning.

"We galloped two fractional miles, with a two-minute lick in the second one," Brisset texted from Lexington. "The filly went beautiful, so if all is good tomorrow, we will ship to Churchill in the morning." Positive Spirit, who broke her maiden last November at Churchill Downs, put in a bullet workout on April 21 with Brisset, going a half-mile in :47.20 at Keeneland. **Manny Franco** is expected to ride her in the Oaks.

RESTLESS RIDER – Fern Circle Stables and Three Chimneys Farm's Ashland Stakes (GI) runner-up Restless Rider did not go to the track ahead of her final workout Monday with jockey Brian Hernandez Jr. She walked the shedrow, said Greg Geier, assistant to trainer Kenny McPeek.

McPeek said Saturday that on Monday she'll breeze a halfmile, about 3 ½ hours before the field for the 145th Kentucky Oaks is decided.

SERENGETI EMPRESS – **Joel Politi's Serengeti Empress** followed the planned regimen of trainer **Tom Amoss**, jogging a mile and galloping 1 ½ miles. The filly is showing no ill effects from a bleeding episode during the Fair Grounds Oaks (GII) in New Orleans on March 23.

She was on the Churchill Downs track again Sunday with her regular exercise rider, **Francisco Herrera**. New Orleans native Amoss finished fifth in last year's Oaks with **Chocolate Martini**, and eighth with **Lone Sailor** in the 2018 Derby.

STREET BAND – Larry Jones, Cindy Jones and Ray Francis' Street Band, the surprise winner of the Fair Grounds Oaks who'll try to reprise that effort Friday in the \$1.25 million Longines Kentucky Oaks (GI), turned in her final work toward that goal Sunday morning during the special Derby/Oaks training period at 7:30 at Churchill Downs.

The daughter of the **Gone West** stallion **Istan** clipped off five furlongs under regular rider **Sophie Doyle** in 1:00.20, hugging the rail from the five-furlong pole to the wire. Her splits along the way were :12.60, :24.40, :37 and :48.40. She then galloped out an extra furlong in 1:13.60.

"That's her usual work," noted assistant trainer **Corey York**, the right-hand man for the past 15 years for trainer/coowner/breeder Larry Jones. "It's a good move for her and just what we wanted. She looked good."

Indeed, the drill by the chestnut filly followed pattern. Her previous four works were accomplished in 1:00.40, 1:00.20, 1:00 and 1:01

Englishwoman Doyle, who has handled Street Band in her past five starts and was decked out in not one, but two, Go-Pro cameras for the move, liked the way her filly went.

"She moved well out there," the 31-year-old rider said. "She gave me a great feel."

The rider spoke briefly after the work with Jones, who was on the phone from Oaklawn Park where he was overseeing his stable's main string. The Kentuckian, who already has three victories in the Kentucky Oaks (**Proud Spell** in 2008, **Believe You Can** in 2012 and **Lovely Maria** in 2015), plans on relocating to Louisville Sunday night.

Co-owner Francis was on hand for the drill and allowed as how he was enjoying the run-up to the Run for the Lilies.

Kentucky Derby and Oaks Update Sunday, April 28, 2019 Page 8 of 10

"It's very exciting to be in with Larry (Jones) and his crew," the former Louisville resident who now calls Henderson, Kentucky, home said. "We don't know how she's going to do in that 14-horse field, but it's fun to be a part of this."

Entries for the Kentucky Oaks will be drawn Monday morning.

ROAD TO THE KENTUCKY OAKS LEADERBOARD

#	Horse	Trainer	Points
1	Bellafina	Simon Callaghan	132
2	Champagne Anyone	Ian Wilkes	113
3	Street Band	Larry Jones	105
4	Lady Apple	Steve Asmussen	100
5	Out for a Spin	Dallas Stewart	100
6	Liora	Wayne Catalano	71
7	Restless Rider	Kenny McPeek	62
8	Serengeti Empress	Tom Amoss	60
9	Motion Emotion	Tom Van Berg	60
10	Jaywalk	John Servis	55
11	Chocolate Kisses	Mark Casse	51
12	Jeltrin	Alexis Delgado	50
13	Positive Spirit	Rodolphe Brisset	50
14	Flor de la Mar	Bob Baffert	40
15	\$-Cookie Dough	Stan Gold	40
16	\$-Dunbar Road	Chad Brown	40

\$- Late Kentucky Oaks Nominee

BARN LIST - KENTUCKY OAKS

Horse	Trainer	Barn
Champagne Anyone	Ian Wilkes	26
Chocolate Kisses	Mark Casse	36
Dunbar Road	Chad Brown	42
Flor de La Mar	Bob Baffert	33
Jeltrin	Alexis Delgado	43
Lady Apple	Steve Asmussen	38
Liora	Wayne Catalano	30
Motion Emotion	Tom Van Berg	32
Out for a Spin	Dallas Stewart	37
Restless Rider	Kenny McPeek	7
Serengeti Empress	Tom Amoss	29
Street Band	Larry Jones	28

SHAPING UP: THE LONGINES KENTUCKY OAKS -

Likely starters in the 145th running of the \$1.25 million Longines Kentucky Oaks (Grade I) to be run for 3-year-old fillies at 1 1/8 miles on Friday, May 3: Bellafina (jockey Flavien Prat), Champagne Anyone (Chris Landeros), Chocolate Kisses (Julien Leparoux), Flor de la Mar (Joel Rosario), Jaywalk (Javier Castellano), Jeltrin (Luis Saez), Lady Apple (Ricardo Santana Jr.), Liora (Channing Hill), Motion Emotion (Mike Smith), Out for a Spin (Irad Ortiz Jr.), Positive Spirit (Manny Franco), Restless Rider (Brian Hernandez Jr.), Serengeti Empress (Undecided), Street Band (Sophie Doyle).

Next up in order of preference: **Cookie Dough** (Jeffrey Sanchez) and **Dunbar Road** (Jose Ortiz).

DERBY/OAKS KNOWN ARRIVAL SCHEDULE

- April 29: Bellafina, Haikal, Master Fencer, Tax
- April 30: Cutting Humor, Maximum Security, Spinoff, Vekoma

KENTUCKY DERBY NEWSFEED AVAILABLE VIA FTP UPLOAD

The Kentucky Derby Newsfeed is now available via FTP download. Files are 1080 HD and will be uploaded on a daily basis

To access Newsfeed footage & News Conferences via FTP client (Filezilla, Cyberduck, etc) use the following:

Server: ftp3.ftptoyoursite.com Username: kyderby145 Password: 2019DerbyMedia

Port: 22

NEWSFEED & NEWS CONFERENCES VIA WEB BROWSER

To access Newsfeed footage & News Conferences via web browser, enter this information into your browser address bar: www.kyderby.hammondcg.com.

You will receive a prompt to enter a username and password.

Username: kyderby145 **Password**: 2019DerbyMedia

For further information, inquires or technical difficulties, please contact Jesse Kelsey, Vice-President of Hammond Communications Group, Inc. at (859) 492-5768.

NEW OAKS/DERBY PICK 6 HIGHLIGHTS DERBY WEEK WAGERING MENU

A new two-day Pick 6 that features six Grade I races, including the \$3 million Kentucky Derby Presented by Woodford Reserve and \$1.25 million Longines Kentucky Oaks, highlights a spectacular wagering menu for the 2019 Spring Meet at Churchill Downs.

Along with the new \$2 Oaks/Derby Pick 6, the wagering menu will also feature a \$1.5 million guaranteed Pick 5 on Kentucky Derby day that will end on the Kentucky Derby in Race 12 and the \$1 million guaranteed Bourbon Double for the Old Forester Turf Classic (GI) and Kentucky Derby. The 50-cent Pick 5, arguably the fastest growing wager in the U.S., features a 15% takeout. The Bourbon Double has a \$1 minimum denomination.

Kentucky Derby and Oaks Update Sunday, April 28, 2019 Page 9 of 10

The Oaks/Derby Pick 6, which has a \$250,000 guaranteed pool, has a mandatory payout with a 15% takeout. The wager will begin Friday with the \$500,000 La Troienne – a 1 1/16-mile event for fillies and mares 4-year-olds and up, followed by the Kentucky Oaks – run at 1 1/8 miles for 3-year-old fillies. Saturday's races include the \$500,000 Humana Distaff – for fillies and mares 4-years-old and up at seven furlongs; the \$500,000 Churchill Downs – for 4-year-olds and up run at seven furlongs; the \$1 million Old Forester Turf Classic – for 4-year-olds and up run at 1 1/8 miles on the Matt Winn Turf Course; and the 1 ½-mile Kentucky Derby.

The wagering menu will also include the 20-cent Single 6 Jackpot which began on Opening Night, April 27, and run through the entirety of the Spring Meet, including Oaks and Derby days. To win the entire Single 6 Jackpot, a player must have the only winning combination. If there are multiple winning combinations, 90 percent of the pool will be paid out and 10 percent will carry to the next day's card. The Single 6 Jackpot takeout is 15%.

Head-to-head wagers, which were approved earlier this month by the Kentucky Horse Racing Commission, will not be offered this year.

The full list of post times and wagering offerings are available here: https://www.churchilldowns.com/racing-wagering/toteboard/post-times.

OFFICIAL DERBY PROGRAMS AVAILABLE NATIONWIDE

Fans, party hosts, horseplayers, and memorabilia collectors can now have official Kentucky Derby 145 souvenir programs shipped right to their doorstep in time for Derby Day.

Advance online ordering is now available at www.publications.churchilldowns.com.

These glossy programs are identical to those sold on track at Churchill Downs on Kentucky Derby Day, with full past performances for the entire card, as well as feature articles on Derby personalities, history and traditions.

Programs will go to print following the April 30 post-position draw and will ship May 2 via FedEx Priority Overnight for delivery May 3 (by 10:30 a.m. local time to most U.S. addresses).

FedEx Priority Overnight delivery requires a signature. Please be sure to have your order shipped to an address where someone will be available to receive it.

There is a minimum of five programs per order. Payment will only be accepted online via major credit card.

EARLY LOOK AT POSSIBLE FIELDS FOR KENTUCKY DERBY WEEK STAKES

\$500,000 LA TROIENNE (GI) (Entries taken Monday, April 29, race Friday, May 3) – Probable: Blue Prize (ARG) (Ignacio Correas IV), Divine Miss Grey (Danny Gargan), Heavenhasmynikki (Bob Hess Jr.), Mopotism (Doug O'Neill), Secret Spice (Richard Baltas) and She's a Julie (Steve Asmussen).

\$400,000 ALYSHEBA (GII) (Entries taken Monday, April 29, race Friday, May 3) – Probable: Bandua (Jack Sisterson), Bourbon Resolution (Ian Wilkes), Instilled Regard (Chad Brown), McKinzie (Bob Baffert), Pavel (Doug O'Neill), Prime Attraction (Jim Cassidy), Silver Dust (Bret Calhoun) and Tom's d'Etat (Al Stall Jr.).

\$250,000 EDGEWOOD (GIII) (Entries taken Monday, April 29, race Friday, May 3) — Probable: **Cambier Parc** (Chad Brown), **Concrete Rose** (Rusty Arnold), **Newspaperofrecord** (**IRE**) (Chad Brown) and **Winter Sunset** (Wayne Catalano).

\$250,000 EIGHT BELLES (GII) (Entries taken Monday, April 29, race Friday, May 3) – Probable: **Bell's the One** (Neil Pessin), **Im Evin Im Leavin** (Greg Tracy), **Mother Mother** (Bob Baffert), **Queen of Beas** (Jorge Abreu) and **Take Charge Angel** (Ben Colebrook).

\$250,000 TWIN SPIRES TURF SPRINT (GII) (Entries taken Monday, April 29, race Friday, May 3) — Probable: **Angaston** (Lon Wiggins), **Bound for Nowhere** (Wesley Ward), **Eddie Haskell** (Mark Glatt), **Extravagant Kid** (Brendan Walsh), **Mr. Crow** (Ben Colebrook), **Will Call** (Brad Cox) and **World of Trouble** (Jason Servis).

\$1 MILLION OLD FORESTER TURF CLASSIC (GI) (Entries taken Tuesday, April 30, race Saturday, May 4) — Probable: Breaking the Rules (Shug McGaughey), Bricks and Mortar (Chad Brown), March to the Arch (Mark Casse), Markitoff (Mike Maker), Multiplier (Bill Mott), Raging Bull (FR) (Brown) and Ticonderoga (Brown).

\$500,000 CHURCHILL DOWNS (GI) (Entries taken Tuesday, April 30, race Saturday, May 4) – Probable: Bobby's Wicked One (Al Stall Jr.), Do Share (Mike Maker), Limousine Liberal (Ben Colebrook), Promises Fulfilled (Dale Romans), Warrior's Club (D. Wayne Lukas) and Whitmore (Ron Moquett).

\$500,000 HUMANA DISTAFF (GI) (Entries taken Tuesday, April 30, race Saturday, May 4) – Probable: **Amy's Challenge** (Mac Robertson), **Marley's Freedom** (Bob Baffert), **Shamrock Rose** (Mark Casse) and **Talk Veuve to Me** (Rodolphe Brisset).

\$400,000 AMERICAN TURF (GII) (Entries taken Tuesday, April 30, race Saturday, May 4) – Probable: A Thread of Blue (Kiaran McLaughlin), Avie's Flatter (Josie Carroll), Casa Creed (Bill Mott), Digital Age (IRE) (Chad Brown), Forever Mo (Antonio Sano), Henley's Joy (Mike Maker), Louder Than Bombs (David Fawkes), Marquee Prince (Brad Cox), Seismic Wave (Mott) and Weekly Call (Vickie Foley).

Kentucky Derby and Oaks Update Sunday, April 28, 2019 Page 10 of 10

\$400,000 LONGINES DISTAFF TURF MILE (GII) (Entries taken Tuesday, April 30, race Saturday, May 4) — Probable: Beau Recall (IRE) (Brad Cox), Capla Temptress (IRE) (Bill Mott), Daddy Is a Legend (George Weaver), Environs (GB) (Chad Brown), Got Stormy (Mark Casse), Precieuse (IRE) (Brown), Raven's Lady (GB) (James Cassidy), Take These Chains (Matt Hogan) and Valedictorian (Kelly Breen).

\$400,000 PAT DAY MILE (GIII) (Entries taken Tuesday, April 30, race Saturday, May 4) — Probable: Dream Maker (Mark Casse), Frolic More (Dallas Stewart), Global Campaign (Stan Hough), Great Success (Gustavo Delgado), High Crime (Darrin Miller), Hog Creek Hustle (Vickie Foley), Lexitonian (Jack Sisterson), Manny Wah (Wayne Catalano) and Mr. Money (Bret Calhoun).

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